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State of Utah

OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

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Director, UOVC

Date: June 27, 2023

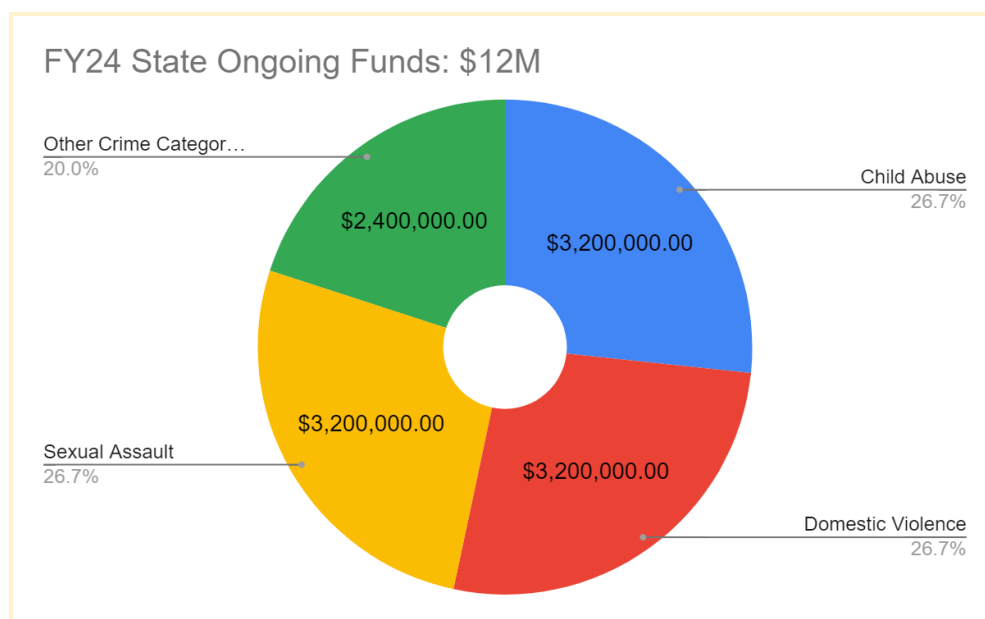
To: Utah Office for Victims of Crime Board of Directors

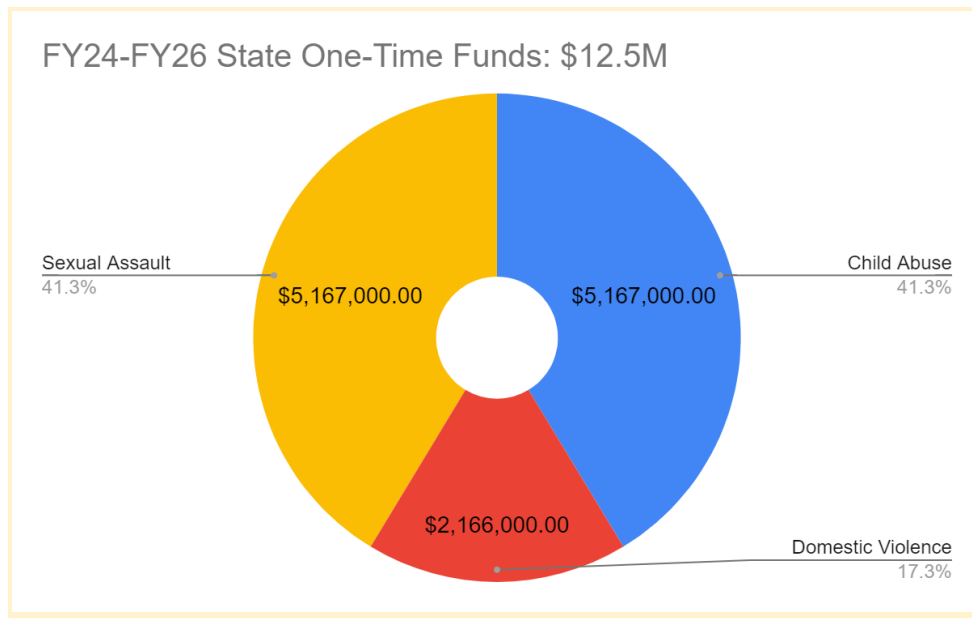
From: Tallie Viteri, UOVC Assistant Director-Grants Administrator

Re: 2023-2025 Victim Assistance Funding Recommendations

Overview

This past year has been historical for victims services in the state of Utah. With impending drastic decreases in victim services funding, the Utah Office for Victims of Crime joined forces with stakeholders from domestic violence and sexual assault coalitions, the Attorney General's Office CJC Program, the Division of Child and Family Services, CCJJ, and the state legislature to bring attention to the need for support for victim services at the state level. Through this initiative, this task force was able to demonstrate to the legislature what the core services are for domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse victims and the overall cost for victim services in Utah. For more information on this initiative, please see the [Utah Victim Services Overview Report](#). Such a demonstration made a major impact and not only brought more attention to the problem, but also came with additional financial support from the state in the amount of \$12 million of ongoing funds and \$12.5 million of one-time funds which is to be dispersed over the next three years. This funding was distributed as follows:





The Utah Office for Victims of Crime has been designated as the pass-through agency for both the Sexual Assault and Other Crimes funding categories. The following is a summary of how these funds will be allocated over the next fiscal year.

State Victim Services Funding

Sexual Assault Victim Services Funding

For FY24 Sexual Assault Victim Services received \$3,200,000 of ongoing funds and \$1,167,000 of one-time funds. The priority for the ongoing funding will be to sustain and stabilize existing programs. The priority of the one-time funding will be to build up sexual assault victim services in areas of the state where they are currently lacking. In conjunction with the Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault, we have determined the breakdown of the overall SA funds to be as follows:

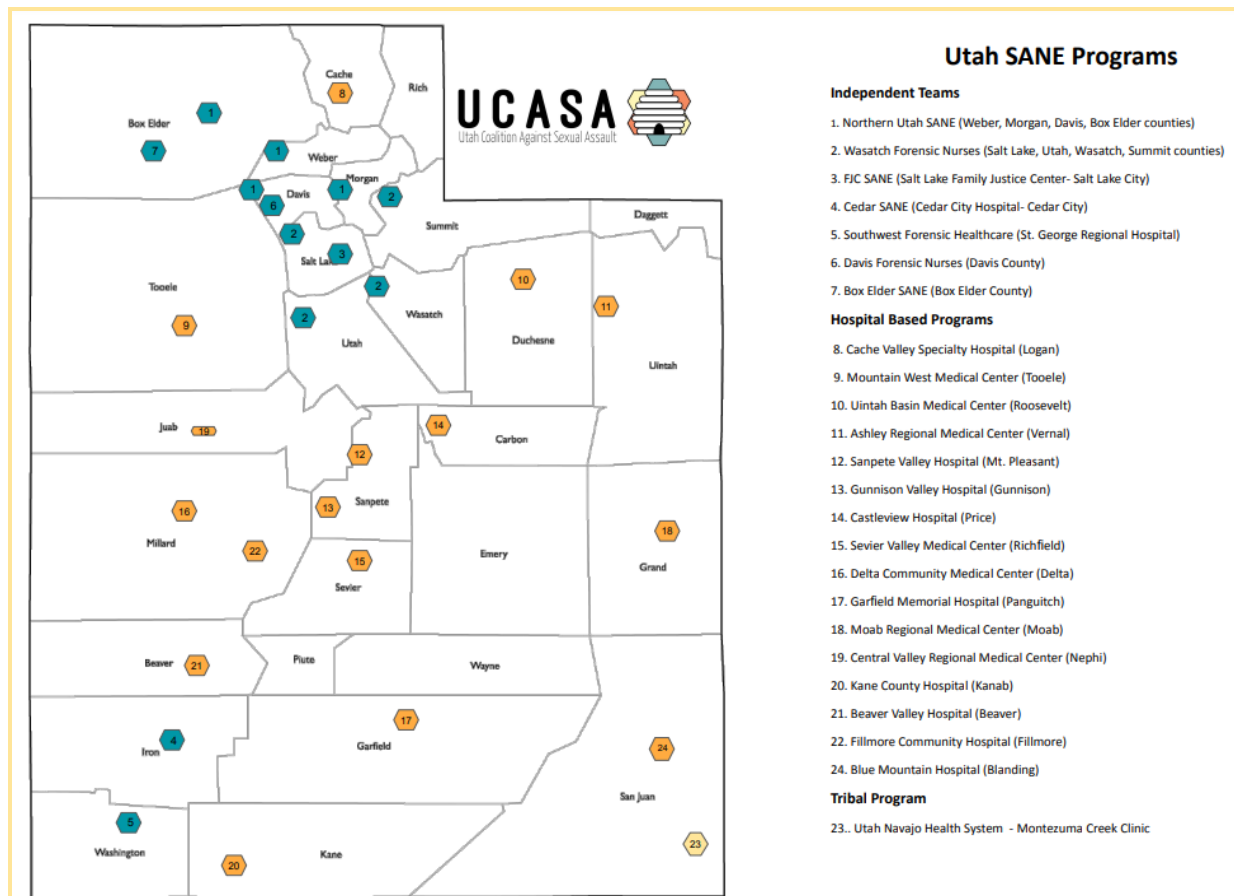
Program	FY24 Ongoing Amount	FY24 One-Time Amount
Rape Crisis Centers	\$2,240,000	\$816,900
SANE Programs	\$500,000	\$175,050
Coalitions	\$300,000	\$116,700
UOVC Administrative	\$160,000	\$58,350
TOTAL	\$3,200,000	\$1,167,000

State Coalitions Funding

There are two coalitions in the state who focus on sexual violence-The Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault (UCASA)- whose mission is to *strengthen the effectiveness of sexual violence education, prevention, and response in Utah*; and Restoring Ancestral Winds (RAW)-whose mission is to *support healing in our indigenous communities*. A total of 10% of the state funds are dedicated towards the sexual assault coalitions for the purposes of supporting local rape crisis centers, providing training and technical assistance to programs, and increasing availability and access to culturally-specific services for Native survivors of sexual violence.

SANE Programs

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) are often the first victim services professional a rape victim comes into contact with after their assault. These services are critical to victims. A total of 15% of state funds are dedicated towards 24 SANE Programs across the state to provide infrastructure and stability to their organization to maintain paid, on-call nurses at all times as well as the necessary equipment, training, travel, supplies, and insurance costs.



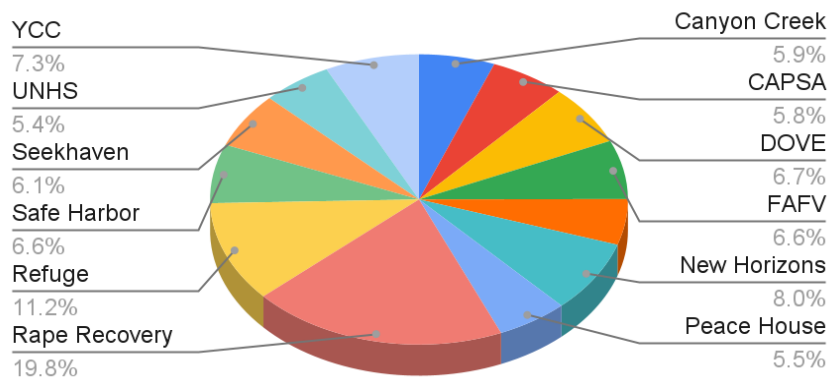
Rape Crisis Centers

Rape Crisis Centers are essential for victims of sexual assault and it is our priority to ensure that all victims, wherever they are located, have access to comprehensive services. A total of 70% of the state funds are dedicated towards 13 Rape Crisis Centers for the purposes of providing core services to victims. The Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault (UCASA) has determined the following Standards of Care to be provide by all Rape Crisis Centers statewide:

- 24 hour crisis hotline
- Crisis intervention
- Accompaniment to hospitals, police, prosecutors, and courts
- Advocacy
- Public Education and Outreach

The funding formula for Rape Crisis Centers (RCC) involves various metrics. While no funding formula is perfect, UOVC has sought to award this state funding in the most equitable manner possible to ensure that sexual assault victims can receive life-saving services no matter where they reside in the state. For this reason, it was important that we utilized data that was derived from sources that provided consistent data for every area of the state (e.g. census, Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR), and Code R data). The basis for the funding is divided by geographic regions in the state (counties) and then each county was assigned a Rape Crisis Center that provided the services to that region.

RCC State Funding Distribution



The distribution for Rape Crisis Centers has two main components: a tiered baseline level of funding for all centers and a formulaic distribution for larger areas in the state. The baseline level of funding was a combination of: 1) a base amount for each program 2) an additional amount for each adjacent county that the program serves (based on population in tiers) and 3) a tiered amount for the UCR data of sexual assaults in their county. The formula amount was determined by the number of Code R exams that were completed in each county. This is demonstrated in the table below. The formula will be evaluated in this first year, and in the next contract period (2024-2026), based on the feedback the formula may need to be adjusted.

County/Area	RCC Responsible	County Baseline	SA Rate Baseline	Code R %	County Total
Beaver	Canyon Creek	\$10,000.00		\$1,799.22	\$11,799.22
Box Elder	New Hope	\$120,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$5,877.46	\$155,877.46
Cache	CAPSA	\$120,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$23,150.00	\$168,150.00
Carbon	The Refuge	\$30,000.00		\$3,718.39	\$33,718.39
Daggett	FAFV	\$10,000.00		\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Davis	Safe Harbor	\$120,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$55,536.01	\$200,536.01
Duchesne	FAFV	\$30,000.00		\$3,598.45	\$33,598.45
Emery	Seekhaven	\$20,000.00		\$1,199.48	\$21,199.48
Garfield	Canyon Creek	\$20,000.00		\$599.74	\$20,599.74
Grand	Seekhaven	\$120,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$1,559.33	\$151,559.33
Kane	DOVE	\$20,000.00		\$12,474.61	\$32,474.61
Iron	Canyon Creek	\$120,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$2,039.12	\$147,039.12
Juab	The Refuge	\$30,000.00		\$2,039.12	\$32,039.12
Millard	New Horizons	\$30,000.00		\$1,439.38	\$31,439.38
Morgan	YCC	\$30,000.00		\$959.59	\$30,959.59
Piute	New Horizons	\$10,000.00		\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Rich	CAPSA	\$10,000.00		\$359.84	\$10,359.84
Salt Lake	RRC	\$250,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$267,004.66	\$547,004.66
San Juan	UNHS/Seekhaven	\$30,000.00		\$479.79	\$30,479.79
Sanpete	New Horizons	\$40,000.00		\$4,078.24	\$44,078.24
Sevier	New Horizons	\$120,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$3,718.39	\$148,718.39
Summit	Peace House	\$120,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$6,837.05	\$146,837.05
Tooele	Rape Recovery	\$50,000.00		\$8,036.53	\$58,036.53
Uintah	FAFV	\$120,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$7,076.94	\$157,076.94
Utah	The Refuge	\$120,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$115,510.10	\$255,510.10
Wasatch	Refuge/ PeaceHouse	\$40,000.00		\$3,358.55	\$43,358.55
Washington	DOVE	\$120,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$26,868.39	\$171,868.39
Wayne	New Horizons	\$10,000.00		\$359.84	\$10,359.84
Weber	YCC	\$120,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$42,221.76	\$192,221.76
Navajo Nation	UNHS	\$120,000.00	\$30,000.00		\$150,000.00
Total		\$2,110,000.00	\$345,000.00	\$601,900.00	\$3,056,900.00

Other Crime Victim Services Funding

For FY24, \$2,000,000 of ongoing funding was allocated to “other crime victim services” to be administered by the Utah Office for Victims of Crime. The priority for this funding is to ensure that core services for all crime victims are available throughout the state, more specifically in the areas of criminal justice victim advocacy programs, legal services for crime victims, and programs that assist underserved victims of crime. The breakdown of these funds will be distributed as follows:

Program	FY24 Amount
Criminal Justice Victim Advocacy Services	\$1,190,000
Legal Programs	\$350,000
Underserved Programs	\$360,000
UOVC Administrative	\$100,000
TOTAL	\$2,000,000

Criminal Justice Programs

When a person is a victim of crime, they enter into a complex system that often compounds the trauma they have already experienced. For this reason, it is essential that victim advocates are located in police departments and prosecutors offices to assist them navigate the criminal justice labyrinth. A total of \$1,190,000 of state funds are dedicated towards fully or partially funding criminal justice victim advocacy programs serving 24 of Utah's 29 counties.



County	Agency		County	Agency
Beaver, Garfield	Beaver County Sheriff		Salt Lake	West Valley City Attorney
Box Elder	Box Elder Attorney		San Juan	San Juan County Attorney
Cache, Rich	Cache County Attorney		Sanpete	Sanpete County Attorney
Carbon	Carbon County Sheriff		Sevier, Piute, Wayne	Sevier County Attorney
Daggett	Daggett County Sheriff		Tooele	Tooele City Police
Davis	Kaysville City Police		Uintah	Vernal City Police
Emery	Emery County Attorney		Utah	Utah County Sheriff
Grand	Moab City Police		Wasatch	Wasatch County Attorney
Iron	Iron County Sheriff		Washington	Washington County Sheriff
Juab	Juab County Attorney		Weber	Ogden City Police
Kane	Kane County Attorney			

In order to ensure that core services are being provided for all victims in the criminal justice system, UOVC has established the following standards to be implemented in every one of the criminal justice victim advocacy programs that will receive state funding:

- Advocate for all types of crimes, and not solely focus on one area of victimizations.
- Actively listen to and collaborate with the victim to address their mental, physical, and/or emotional needs for recovery.
- Recognize the interests of the victim as a primary responsibility.
- Act as a liaison between the victim and law enforcement officers and/or prosecutors.
- Provide crisis intervention (e.g. on-scene response, walk-in crisis assistance, or hotline calls)
- Review police reports and/or court records to provide follow-up contact and resources to victims of crime.
- Educate, notify, advocate, support, and/or accompany the crime victim throughout the criminal justice process.
- Inform crime victims of their constitutional rights and ensure their rights are upheld.
- Safety plan with the crime victim initially and consistently.
- Address the need for orders of protection and assist with obtaining civil orders of protection, criminal orders of protection, and/or jail release no contact orders.
- Assist victims with pre-sentence investigation reports, victim impact statements, reparation applications, and/or restitution efforts.
- Inform victims about the automated victim notification systems (VINE)
- Connect victims with community resources for additional support.
- Ensure victims receive services and assistance in their language and utilize certified interpreters in criminal justice proceedings.

- Understand and respect values, attitudes, beliefs, and customs that differ across cultures, and respond appropriately to these differences when assisting victims of crime.
- Intervene with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution.

In addition to the core services to be provided above, victim advocates shall have knowledge of the State of Utah Criminal Justice System and Victims' Rights Act; policies, practices, and techniques of crisis intervention; trauma informed response modalities, and practices; and cultural awareness and language access best practices. Victim advocates will also increase collaboration and communication with law enforcement agencies, courts, legal representatives, children's justice centers, and community-based programs. Last, victim advocates shall have the responsibility to:

- Be the regional advocate liaison for mass casualty victim response plan.
- Strengthen the advocacy response to criminal justice crime victims in the region.
- Complete 40 hours of trauma informed training per Utah Code 77-38-403
- Coordinate with the Victim Rights Chair in each corresponding judicial district for victim's rights complaints and remedies.

Legal Programs

Legal services are crucial for crime victims in order to ensure safety and justice. This may be in the form of orders of protection, victims rights, immigration, family law, and other civil matters. A total of \$350,000 will be dedicated to five legal programs that serve victims statewide to perform the aforementioned services. They are listed as follows:

- Utah Crime Victims Legal Clinic
- Utah Homicide Survivors
- Timpanogos Legal Clinic
- Catholic Community Services
- Legal Aid Society of Salt Lake City

Underserved Programs

Utah is home to a number of diverse populations. Unfortunately, there are many whose access to victim services is extremely limited. To make matters worse, individuals who are a part of underserved communities are at greater risk to become victims of crime. For this reason, it is necessary to set aside funding for programs that specialize in victim services to underserved populations. A total of \$360,000 will be dedicated to five programs that specialize in serving victims from underserved populations. They are listed as follows:

- Sego Lily Center for the Abused Deaf
- Cherish Families
- Holding Out Help
- Holy Cross Ministries
- Dahlias Hope

Federal Grant Funding

Overview

This past cycle has been monumental for the UOVC Victim Assistance Program. For the first time ever, we have combined all three Federal Grant Programs into one RFP process. While each program still required a separate application, this streamlined process made it so that both applicants as well as grant staff could better plan and design their budgets and programs. Furthermore, grant staff were able to gain a better understanding of the bigger picture of total victim services funding across the state. The following is a summary of the planning, RFP, and screening and allocation process for all UOVC Federal Grant Programs.

Strategic Planning

VAWA

The STOP statute and regulations require an implementation plan as a part of the STOP application, which must include certain elements. (34 U.S.C. 10446(c)(2), (d)(5), and (i); 28 C.F.R. 90.12 and 90.19). The Utah Office for Victims of Crime (UOVC) is the administering agency tasked with the development of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Implementation Plan. The Implementation Plan is a comprehensive statewide plan that outlines funding priorities and strategies for the Services, Training, Officers and Prosecutors Violence Against Women grant program to enhance responses to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence.

In order to develop a comprehensive Implementation Plan that addresses the problems related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, UOVC received a wide range of input through a variety of methods, including: a review of the Victim Services Providers and the Crime Victims Needs Assessments, Needs Identifications Meetings, a Statewide Survey to all state and federally recognized tribes, underserved populations, and culturally specific organizations, and the creation of a planning committee.

Brief description of the planning process:

- Consultation with Collaborative Partners - Six meetings were held throughout February through May 2020. 87 individuals attended these meetings and provided valuable input that has been incorporated into the plan.
- Creation of the Planning Committee - 40 individuals, including representatives from 18 community-based victim services organizations, representatives from the three statewide coalitions, representatives from each of the state and federally recognized tribes, and representatives from underserved communities. Meetings were held monthly throughout May through November 2021.
- Victim Services Providers & Crime Victims Needs Assessment - October - December 2021. 191 victim service providers filled out the assessment and 704 victims filled out the victim needs assessment. The information obtained has been incorporated into the plan.

The 2022-2025 Implementation Plan goals and objectives outlined below were developed through the planning process results, coordination with other state and federal funding streams, data outlined in the “Needs and Context” section of the plan, and previous implementation plans.

Goal 1: Improve and strengthen the State of Utah’s response to crime victims

- Identify and maintain core services for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, dating violence, DV-related homicide, and sex trafficking.
- Increase support and services for victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, dating violence, DV-related homicide, and sex trafficking.
- Develop infrastructure or enhance or establish services for victims of crime identified around the state as underserved.
- Support efforts to collect data regarding the nature and incidence of violence within the state across all systems targeting tribal and/or underserved populations.
- Implement evidence-based risk/danger assessments to identify and prioritize victims who are considered to be in relationships with a high risk of lethality.
- Ensure all organizations receiving federal funding take reasonable steps to make their programs, services, and activities accessible by eligible persons with limited English proficiency.

Goal 2: Provide basic and advanced training to systems that interact with crime victims

- Provide culturally specific services and training to underserved communities based on factors such as race, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, or gender identity.
- Provide basic and advanced training to tribal victim services, tribal law enforcement, and tribal courts regarding services for victims in tribal communities.
- Provide comprehensive training to victim services, law enforcement, prosecution, and court personnel on domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking, dating violence, DV-related homicide, and sex trafficking to encourage increased reporting, arrest, successful prosecution, and enforcement of protective orders.
- Improve quality of victim services and promote consistency of core training for victim professionals by collaborating with statewide training programs to align training and mentoring programs.

Goal 3: Enhance collaborations and improve relationships between victim services systems

- Increase collaboration between system-based and community-based organizations to address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence in communities that provides a forum for interagency communication and collaboration and work to develop and implement policies and procedures that improve interagency coordination and lead to more uniform responses to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking crimes.
- Utilize the State Victim Advocate Liaison, within UOVC, to improve the provision of core services, best practices, trauma informed responses and organizational capacity, thus creating consistent services throughout the state.
- Increase collaboration with UOVC and statewide coalitions to enhance existing services, increase services to areas with underserved needs, and improve the overall systemic response to victims of violence in our state.

Goal 4: Improve victim experience within the criminal justice system process

- Create and implement best practice models of communication methods and notification protocols between criminal justice professionals and crime victims.
- Define, implement and enhance current trauma-informed care practices.
- Enhance the education and awareness surrounding victims' rights and the complaint process.
- Increase safety of victims by improving the process to obtain protective orders and stalking injunctions.
- Strengthen the criminal justice system response to sexual assault and domestic violence through developing and maintaining specialized law enforcement detectives and prosecutors.

This plan was approved by OVW on October 5, 2022 and will be utilized for the time period in which the federal 2022 - 2025 awards are administered. A copy of the plan can be found here:

[2022-2025 VAWA Implementation Plan](#).

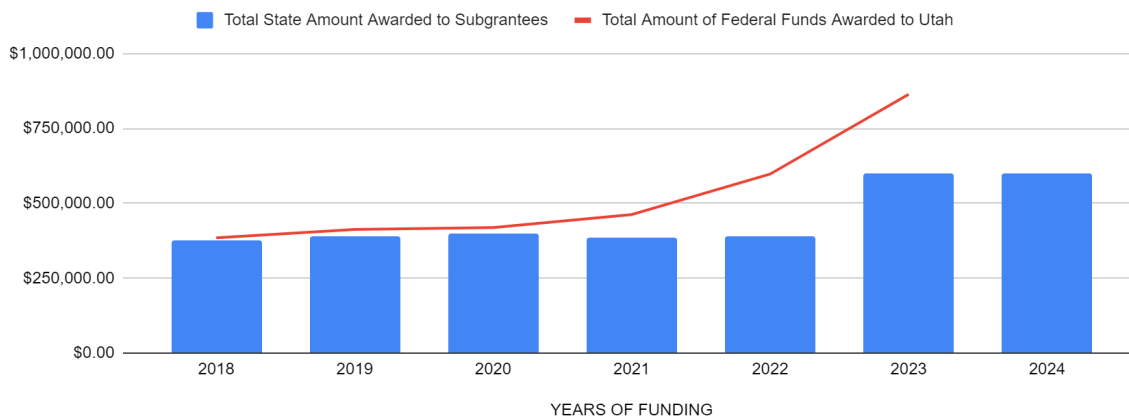
SASP

According to 34 U.S.C. 12511, UOVC is required to meaningfully involve the State Sexual Assault Coalition (UCASA) in making its funding plan. The SASP Program Manager/SA Services Funding Coordinator has been meeting with UCASA on a weekly basis to determine funding priorities for all sexual assault funding programs including SASP, VOCA, VAWA, and state funds. What emerged were the following priority areas for SASP funding:

- Standards of Care: The Utah Coalition of Sexual Assault (UCASA) has developed five key Standards of Care for Rape Crisis Centers in order to ensure that every sexual assault survivor in the state of Utah has access to a minimum level of consistent services. Rape Crisis Centers that are seeking funding with UOVC should meet or have a plan to meet the five standards at the level established by their definitions.
- Designated Programs: When operating a Rape Crisis Center (RRC) within a dual program, RRC's should clearly show a legitimate focus on sexual assault and that personnel funded under such projects have sufficient expertise, training and experience on sexual assault services. This includes a clear identification of a mission statement, staff titles, and program titles. To provide meaningful and effective services, staff time should be at least .25 FTE dedicated to the SASP program and 100% dedicated to sexual assault services.
- VAWA Implementation Plan: Applicants are encouraged to take into consideration the statewide VAWA Implementation Plan when developing their program objectives.

In contrast to UOVC's other Federal funding programs, SASP funds have received a slight increase. This has allowed for additional projects to apply and receive funding.

SASP Funding History



VOCA

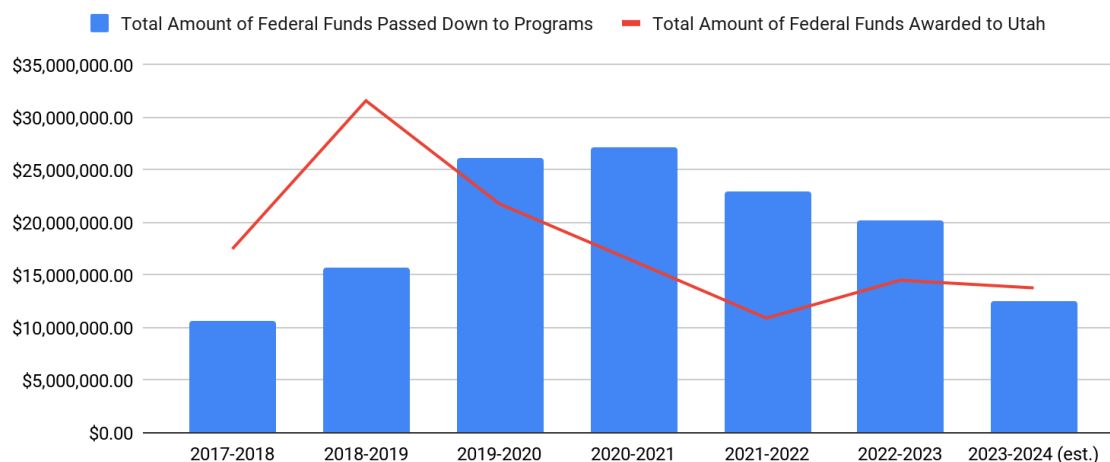
Over a year before the official grant process began, UOVC grant staff engaged in extensive strategic planning to ensure that VOCA funds are to be administered in the manner that is most beneficial to victims while at the same time adhering to all Federal and State guidelines. In accordance with CFR § 94.103 (d),

“SAAs are encouraged to develop a funding strategy, which should consider the following:

- *the range of direct services throughout the State and within communities;*
- *the sustainability of such services;*
- *the unmet needs of crime victims;*
- *the demographic profile of crime victims;*
- *the coordinated cooperative response of community organizations in organizing direct services;*
- *the availability of direct services throughout the criminal justice process as well as to victims of the criminal justice process, as well as to victims who are not participating in criminal justice proceedings; and*
- *the extent to which other sources of funding are available for direct services.”*

In addition to meeting all of the criteria above, UOVC staff faced the additional challenge of decreasing overall VOCA funding by approximately 40% in the most equitable manner possible.

VOCA Funding History



In order to begin to gain a better understanding of the range and availability of each of the above criteria, we relied upon the data that was collected from the needs assessment and listening sessions through the UOVC Victim Liaison Program. The needs assessment data was gathered from over 700 crime victims and nearly 200 victim services providers across the state. The following takeaways from the needs assessment were implemented into the VOCA funding planning process:

- There is a lack of communication and coordination between stakeholders to ensure victims received a ‘warm’ hand-off to relevant providers
- Specific services were not available or not available in the amount the victim needed
- Services not culturally relevant
- Victim opinions/concerns were not considered in decision making related to charging, prosecution, plea deals
- There is a lack of comprehensive services that are accessible to victim/survivors regardless of crime type or characteristics, jurisdiction, and needs that are not directly related to the crime, such as immigration assistance
- There is a lack of regular and meaningful interagency communication, which results in victim/survivors not getting all of the services they need

Additionally, listening sessions were conducted in each judicial district with a total of 191 attendees. The following takeaways from the listening sessions were implemented into the VOCA funding planning process:

- Not all regions have both community and system based advocacy programs. Sexual assault specific services are not available in all regions
- Need to break down barriers of territorialism between agencies
- Agencies can feel siloed, especially in underserved communities
- Victim services do not always fall into office hours and not all areas have accessible after-hours services

In order to adequately address the concerns from both the needs assessment and listening sessions as well as the criteria under the VOCA rule when developing the funding plan, UOVC updated the entire grant application. In addition to the budget, program plan, and other sections; we added the following, heavily-weighted questions to all of our grant applications in order to best determine how programs were meeting the aforementioned criteria:

1. *Briefly describe your agency, mission/purpose, and how long it has been in existence. What types of programs do you offer? Who benefits from your services?*
2. *What victimization type is the primary focus of this funding request? What problems do those victims face? Describe victims' needs (from a victim's perspective, not what your agency provides to victims).*
3. *What other agencies/programs serve victims in your area? Describe in detail your efforts to coordinate victim services with the programs and what is working well. What are the barriers or gaps to meaningful coordination?*
4. *Identify underserved, marginalized, and culturally specific populations in your region. Describe ways in which your organization is uniquely qualified to provide services to underserved, marginalized, and culturally specific populations and/or how your organization will work towards reaching and developing meaningful services for underserved, marginalized, and culturally specific populations.*
5. *How will your program plan and proposed budget specifically address the above needs?*
6. *What is your plan to improve coordination with other agencies in your area to address the above areas and gaps? (Coordination efforts should be demonstrated in attached letters.)*
7. *What does success look like? What will you do to ensure that services provided are meaningful? What evaluation tools will you use to measure program effectiveness?*

Next, we saw consistent feedback around the need for coordination for victim services providers as well as comprehensive victim services in every area of the state. For this reason we heightened our attention around collaboration letters and added the following requirement to all of our grant applications of *Certification of Consultation and Coordination*:

- *Applicants and (3) partnering agencies are required to meet before the grant application is submitted in order to determine a plan for victim services coordination*
- *Applicants and (3) partnering agencies must describe how you will coordinate efforts to strengthen victim services within your community. Specifically describe any policies or processes that are employed, or that will be employed, for successful and meaningful collaboration.*

We also informed all applicants of UOVC's funding priority areas in the following language:

"It is UOVC's responsibility to ensure that baseline victim services for all victims of crime are provided equitably across the entire state. Applicants should take into consideration the existing victim services in their area and carefully evaluate methods of collaboration when applying for funding."

Last, as a way to meet VOCA’s funding priority allocations as well as to take into consideration the unique needs for comprehensive victim services for *all* victims of crime, UOVC determined the following funding caps on its funding categories for the upcoming two year cycle.

Funding Category	Amount Available
Child Abuse	\$3,500,000.00
Criminal Justice	\$7,500,000.00
Domestic Violence	\$5,000,000.00
Legal	\$2,500,000.00
Sexual Assault	\$3,000,000.00
Underserved	\$2,500,000.00
New Programs	\$1,000,000.00
Self Awards	\$800,000.00
TOTALS	\$25,800,000.00

Notice of Funding Opportunity

UOVC published its Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on January 10, 2023 and sent information to agencies across the state that provide services to crime victims. Recipients of the NOFO include but are not limited to the following: all law enforcement and prosecution agencies in the state, domestic violence shelters, rape recovery centers, legal services, children’s justice centers, counseling centers, legal services, and government and non-profit organizations that provide specific assistance to underserved communities. The NOFO was also posted on the UOVC website. The following information was included in the Notice of Funding Opportunity: background information of VOCA, VAWA, and SASP; amount of funding; funding categories; information on RFP training; and an application timeline. The dates in the timeline were later pushed back in order to account for victim services funding that would be received through the legislature and ensure that programs would have sufficient time to plan their application.

RFP Trainings and Open Question/Answer

On March 13, 2023, UOVC grant staff hosted an online Request for Proposal (RFP) Training for VOCA, VAWA, and SASP funds with an estimated total of 212 live views and 487 views of the recording from across the state. The training was recorded and posted on UOVC website for applicants to access at any time. Questions and corresponding answers from the training as well as the slides from the presentation were also posted on the UOVC website. Topics covered in the training included general grant information, updates to this funding cycle including budget restrictions, eligibility requirements, allowable/unallowable costs, how to fill out the grant

application, and navigating the online grant management system. The application was open online for seven weeks.

In an effort to improve transparency and equal access, UOVC did not provide any one on one technical support to applicants. Instead all grant application materials were available and posted on UOVC's website. If applicants were in need of further information, they were required to post the question on UOVC's online form, and both the question and answer were provided on UOVC's website. A total of 155 questions were answered between the RFP Training and the seven week period that followed.

Grant Screening and Allocation Process

Applications were due on May 3, 2023. We received a total of 139 applications for a total of \$33,706,703 across all three federal grant programs from government (state and local), non-profit, and tribal organizations across the state. Exact amounts of requests for each category are detailed in the following attachments. All applications were immediately placed in the UOVC Screening and Allocation Process, which is composed of three stages: Pre-Screen, Subject Matter Expert (SME) Review, and Management Review. In the pre-screen stage, grant analysts reviewed each application to ensure that it met basic grant eligibility requirements then promoted that application to SME Review.

Twelve SME Committees composed of 48 professionals serving in various victim services programs across the state were formed to review all of the grant applications. In addition to receiving grant applications to review, committee members received specific instruction regarding conflicts of interest, confidentiality, general guidelines for each grant program, and how to review, score, and rank applications in the system. Then each committee met on a designated day to discuss each grant, and review the quality of the application in each of the following sections:

- Applicant Information (3 points)
- Statement of Problem, Need, and Collaboration (22 points)
- Agency Capacity (2 points)
- Record of Providing Effective Services (4 points)
- Additional Resources (1 point)
- Program Plan (24 points)
- Grant Required Questions (4 points)
- Budget/Budget Justification (22 points)
- Additional Attachments (8 points)

All grant review meetings were hosted virtually. This year differed from previous years in that each committee was given a region of the state and reviewed all of the grant applications (VOCA/VAWA/SASP) from the region. This proved highly beneficial as to garner a better understanding of all of the victim services in a given area and how those programs are collaborating. When the applications passed on to Management Review they were scored

according to each grant and funding category it fell under.

Management Review is composed of UOVC grant staff who met to discuss the recommendations of the SME Committees. Management review then also made a recommendation for funding. In Management Review, UOVC staff scored each grant according to each of the following factors:

- Previous deobligations and prudence in budgeting
- Timeliness in submitting reimbursement requests and reports
- Overall program and grant management including repeat audit findings
- A demonstrated need for requested expenses
- Performance indicators
- Ability to collaborate and coordinate with community partners
- A demonstrated effort to seek outside resources
- Overall quality of their grant application
- Efficiency and effectiveness of service provided

On some occasions the management review made a separate recommendation for funding than the SME review. This was normally due to one or more of the discretionary funding criteria as mentioned above; the need to maintain consistency of funding decisions across all committees; and the need to reduce or increase funding in order to meet predetermined funding caps.

Furthermore, UOVC staff felt it was crucial that SME committees had the autonomy to make recommendations without interference of UOVC staff, which could potentially bias the process. At the culmination of this process, the following summary is dividing among funding categories and provides the following information: name/description of the agency, last year's funding amount, this year's funding request, SME recommendation, MR recommendation, as well as a summary of what was requested, what was/wasn't recommended for funding and a justification as to why. Please be advised that all recommendations for funding are based on contingencies set forth in SME and/or Management Review. Should the agency not meet these contingencies, they would not be eligible for funding. The following chart is an overall summary by category of requests for funding and what was recommended by both the Subject Matter Expert (SME) Review and Management Review (MR).

2023 -2025 VAWA Funding Recommendations

Funding Category	2021-2022 Award (two years)	Amount Available	2023-2025 Request	2023-2025 SME Recommended	2023-2025 MR Recommended
Courts	\$170,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$139,103.75	\$135,540.00
Law Enforcement	\$863,391.61	\$750,000.00	\$1,482,793.08	\$713,681.03	\$891,373.13
Prosecution	\$505,348.36	\$750,000.00	\$864,017.62	\$535,980.60	\$751,201.08
Victim Services	\$1,101,281.97	\$900,000.00	\$2,216,544.97	\$1,047,051.63	\$950,710.00
Discretionary	\$488,344.24	\$450,000.00	\$580,338.82	\$422,406.12	\$269,780.00
TOTALS	\$3,128,366.18	\$3,000,000.00	\$5,293,694.49	\$2,858,223.13	\$2,998,604.21

2023 -2025 SASP Funding Recommendations

Programs	2021-2022 Award (two years)	Amount Available	2023-2025 Request	2023-2025 SME Recommended	2023-2025 MR Recommended
11 Rape Crisis Centers Statewide	\$781,563.27	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,479,778.63	\$1,051,949.65	\$1,218,523.06

2023 -2025 VOCA Funding Recommendations

Funding Category	2022-2023 Award (one year)	Amount Available	2023-2025 Request	2023-2025 SME Recommendation	2023-2025 MR Recommendation
Child Abuse	\$3,509,771.55	\$3,500,000.00	\$4,286,117.52	\$3,865,915.73	\$3,836,916.41
Criminal Justice	\$5,059,003.44	\$7,500,000.00	\$7,048,208.83	\$6,227,640.57	\$6,085,881.51
Domestic Violence	\$5,104,508.94	\$5,000,000.00	\$7,897,681.82	\$6,719,849.63	\$5,352,994.71
Legal	\$1,955,471.06	\$2,500,000.00	\$3,009,956.64	\$2,795,961.95	\$3,009,956.64
Sexual Assault	\$2,276,225.17	\$3,000,000.00	\$3,863,755.52	\$2,977,365.35	\$3,244,139.73
Underserved	\$1,860,550.11	\$2,500,000.00	\$3,097,827.80	\$2,728,346.34	\$3,004,139.55
New Programs	\$0.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,732,333.01	\$512,674.99	\$503,650.00
Self Awards	\$377,684.22	\$800,000.00	\$767,348.80	\$767,348.80	\$767,348.80
TOTALS	\$20,143,214.49	\$25,800,000.00	\$31,703,229.94	\$26,595,103.36	\$25,805,027.35